(c) No fomral request for reorganisation of States has been received from any State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Ban on arms in religious places

3410. SHR SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has issued instructions to Government to prepare a legislation for ban of arms in the Golden Temple or other religious places in the country;

(b) if so, whether any concrete legislation in this regard is being considered; and

(c) if so, whether this legis'ation will be brought during the current session of Parliament; if not, whether views of all religious bodies have been taken into consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Section 4 of the Religious Institution (Prevention of Misuse) Ordinance, 1988, promulgated on 26th May, 1988, provides that no religious institution or manager thereof shall allow the entry of any arms or ammunition or of any person carrying any arms or ammunition into the religious institution. However, the wearing and carrying of a kirpan by any person professing the Sikh religion; or any arms which are used as part of any religious ceremony or ritual of the institution as established by customs or usage are exempted. A Bill to replace the Ordinance has since been passed by the Lok Sabha on 11-8-1988 and by the Rajya Sabha on 19-8-88.

Export of alcohol and Molasses

3411. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to authorise more exports of alcohol to take care of the glut situation that is likely to develop in the domestic market in the current alcohol year;

(b) whether any alternative proposal for export of molasses with the similar object of disposing of the huge stock piled up with the sugar mills is also being examined by the Petroleum Ministry; and

(c) if so, what is the main decision arrived at and to what extent it will be helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) In view of the good crop of sugarcane, the country is likely to have surplus quantities of alcohol and molasses. It has, therefore been decided to allow export of surplus quantities. Export of 500 lakh litres of alcohol and 4 lakh tonnes of molasses has already been allowed. The export of alcohol and molasses will ease the pressure on the sugar factories and distilleries.

New strategy to boost Exports

3412. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether limited foreign exchange market scheme is one of the measures being examined by Government as a part of the new strategy to boost exports;

(b) if so, what are the other details of the schemes that are being considered in this regard;

(c) whether the strategy has been prepared only after the Planning Commission had given its report in this regard; and

(d) if so, what were the main points mentioned by the Planning Commission and to what extent they have been incorporated in the strategy to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Farmers sent to jail for non-payment of loans

3413. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of farmers sent to jail for non-payment of loans of nationalised banks; stating the details, datewise;

(b) whether Government propose to write off the loans of farmers throughout the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

(b) and (c) It has been the consistent stand of RBI that generalised waivers of loans are harmful to the credit system. Such action vitiates the recovery discipline and adversely affects the viability of financial institutions as well as their capacity and capability to recycle funds. There is, therefore, no proposal to issue any orders for a general write off of loans.

CBI prosecution against Gram Nirman Mandal, Gaya and AFRD

3414. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that C.B.I. has launched prosecution against Gram Nirman Mandal, Gaya and Avard Foundation for Rural Development (AFRD);

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether all the cases reported by the Kudal Commission for criminal conspiracy and falsification of accounts are being prosecuted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir. CBI has only registered two cases against these organisation, which are still under investigation.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

FERA violation by Shri L. M. Thaper

3415. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri L.M. Thapar has not yet paid the penalty amount for FERA violation;

(b) what was the amount involved in FERA violation against Shri Thapar;

(c) what was the amount agreed to by Shri Thapar as penalty amount and for repayment;

(d) whether Shri Thapar has become the president of ASOCHAM after the FERA violations and Government dignitaries are visiting the functions of ASOCHAM; and

(e) what are the reasons for the delay in prosecuting Shri Thaper for FERA violations?